

## **Policy**

### Category: Mammals

A. In compliance with The Animal Welfare Act, signed into law in 1966 and FLCC institutional policy in order to protect the well-being of participating subjects, all research activities, camps, internships, and practicum experiences involving mammals are subject to advance review and approval by the FLCC IACUC.

B. FLCC research, field studies, camps, internships, and practicum experiences involving mammals, including those conducted with a lead, licensed agency, are subject to advance review and approval by the FLCC IACUC. This review may be expedited based on the role of the lead agency and designation of FLCC's participation being confined to education, observation, and other non-invasive conduct.

### Category: Non-human vertebrates

C. FLCC field studies, camps, internships, practicum experiences, and research involving any non-human vertebrates (other than mammals) which may involve the potential for invasive activity or excessive disturbance of the subjects, including those activities conducted in partnership with lead licensed-agencies, are subject to advance review and approval by the FLCC IACUC.

D. FLCC field studies, camps, internships, practicum experiences, and research involving non-human vertebrates which do not meet any guidelines for the welfare of warm-blooded vertebrate mammals as regulated by the USDA under The Animal Welfare Act, and which are conducted primarily for educational and/or field study purposes and are non-invasive or which do not have the potential for excessive disturbance of the non-human vertebrates involved, are to be submitted for expedited review by the IACUC by the designated FLCC faculty member, researcher, or representative.

## **Reason for Policy**

This policy is based on FLCC's educational mission and belief that the College must strive to aim for the highest principles in keeping with its mission and institutional integrity, environmental stewardship, and commitment to the welfare of all species.

The Primary and Secondary Application Criteria outlined above ensure that the privacy and welfare of the research participants, which being animals are not able to make an informed consent, are adequately protected. The IACUC policy safeguards the rights and welfare of all warm-blooded animals and other non-human vertebrate species that are involved in research, field studies, camps, internships, and practicum experiences conducted at Finger Lakes Community College.

This policy will ensure that all studies and research that involves potentially invasive procedures, causes excessive disturbance of the animals, or meets any conditions as outlined in the Animal Welfare Act and the "Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee" handbook of the Office of Laboratory and Animal Welfare (OLAW), including when conducted in partnership with a licensed regulatory agency is reviewed and approved to ensure appropriate guidance and that all law and regulations are abided to by FLCC.

## **Applicability of Policy**

All FLCC employees, faculty and students, and any outside researchers and regulatory agencies or licensed individuals participating with FLCC should be familiar with this policy.

Research activities and field studies conducted by the faculty, staff, and students of Finger Lakes Community College or by outside researchers gathering data at FLCC are subject to this policy.

## Definitions

None

## Related Documents

### Publications:

- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Guidebook (OLAW), 2002
- Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
- What You Need To Know About the Use of Animals, Dept. HHS, NIH

### Web sites:

NIH Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

1996 Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals

<http://www.nap.edu/reading/readingroom/labrats/>

NIH Grants Policy Statement (2003)

[http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps\\_2003/index.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps_2003/index.htm)

### Regulations:

Animal Welfare Act, United States Code, Title 7 – Agriculture, Chapter 54 – Transportation, Sale and Handling of Certain Animals, Sections 2131-2159

Animal Welfare Regulations, Code of Federal Regulations, Title 9 – Animals and Animal Products, Chapter 1 – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, Subchapter A – Animal Welfare

### **Review date/action taken (requires Board of Trustees approval):**

- August 2010: original approval date
- Fall 2012: no revisions
- Fall 2014: no revisions

### **Procedures and Guidelines**

FLCC faculty, staff, and students, must follow specific guidelines and the protocols involved must be submitted by the appropriate College representative to the College's IACUC for prior approval and/or expedited review according to the guidelines within this document.

FLCC will establish two application review methods, including: 1) the Primary Application for IACUC review, and 2) a Secondary Application for expedited IACUC review. The application review methods will be determined based on categories A, B, C, and D under the policy statement.

1. The Primary Application for IACUC review applies to all research involving warm-blooded vertebrate mammals as regulated by USDA under the Animal Welfare Act, as well as all FLCC activities involving any non-human vertebrates where the potential for invasive activity or excessive disturbance of the subjects exists. This Application is inclusive of categories A and C under the policy statement. Category B may qualify for the Primary Application based on the protocol submission and identification of any criteria qualifying the protocol for Primary Application Review by the IACUC.
2. The Secondary Application for IACUC Review applies to category D, and possibly category B, under the policy statement. This Secondary Application will be used for protocols involving field studies and research projects which do not involve the potential for invasive or excessive disturbance of the vertebrate species involved, including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and other non-human mammals, or where the lead agency is licensed and FLCC's participation is confined to education, observation, and other non-invasive conduct. Secondary applications will be expedited through a direct review process by the IACUC and submitted by FLCC designated-representative (faculty member, researcher, etc.).

### **Criteria for Approval of Secondary and Primary Applications**

1. Primary Application Criteria:

For a research activity to be approved, the following criteria must be satisfied:

- The risks to subjects are minimized as much as possible
- The risks to subjects are reasonable in relation to anticipated benefits
- Adequate plans are made to prepare for potential injury or harm to the animals as a result of the research and unforeseen conditions in the wild or while conducting the study
- The research plan makes provisions for the safety of the subjects during the data collection process
- Provisions are in place to protect the privacy of subjects and maintain confidentiality of data
- Appropriate safeguards are included within the study to protect the rights and welfare of federally defined mammals under the Animal Welfare Act and regulated by the USDA.
- FLCC will also follow accepted protocols as set by licensing and professional organizations such as: The American Ornithologists' Union (AOU), The Wildlife Society (TWS), the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Braddock Bay Raptor Research, etc.

Since animals are unable to make an informed consent to participating in a research study criteria ensure that the privacy and welfare of the subjects used in the research are adequately protected. Anyone engaged in research or field studies which fall under Condition A and B MUST submit requests for review to the IACUC before beginning the research. Anticipate between two and four weeks for review. A process will be developed and communicated in advance of the fall semester.

The Animal Welfare Act federal regulations are intended to provide the necessary information to determine:

- whether a review is needed
- what sort of review is appropriate

- what procedures should be followed in submitting an application

There are several categories of review; each submission is scanned to determine which category it fits into, and then reviewed accordingly. Please refer to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Guidebook (OLAW), 2002, Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, and What You Need to Know about the Use of Animals, Dept. HHS, and NIH for more details.

Drawing from College policy and Federal regulations guiding research involving warm-blooded vertebrate animals, the IACUC may approve, modify, or disapprove protocols based upon consideration of animal welfare. Annual progress reports from investigators and educators may be requested depending upon the category of research.

## 2. Criteria for Approval for Secondary Application of IACUC Review

An expedited and voluntary review process will be provided for field studies and research projects that do not involve any potential for invasive or excessive disturbance of the species involved, including vertebrate species such as fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and non-human mammals. The subjects are identified and protocols outlined in the protocol submission. A process for the expedited review will be developed and communicated in advance of the fall semester.

- Guidelines will be developed to allow for expedited review and approval by the IACUC for submissions meeting the criteria for secondary IACUC review
- The primary purpose of the study is educational, meets the acceptable standards of minimal invasiveness, and is conducted with scientific and educational rigor in keeping with the highest standards of animal and species welfare
- Faculty and researchers involved in the study will continue to focus on education and awareness of the ethical and humane treatment of vertebrate animals in both wildlife and institutional settings
- Provisions are in place to protect the privacy of subjects and maintain confidentiality of data

## **Forms/Online Processes**

- PHS398 Grant Application  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding.phs398/phs398.html>
- SF424 (R&R) Application and Electronic Submission Information  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/index.htm>

## **Appendix**

- None

## **Review date/action taken:**

- August 2010: original approval date
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